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WHERE DOES COMMUNISM END AND FASCISM BEGIN?

If you hear one urchin yell "Fascist!" at another urchin in the ramshackle back-streets of Moscow today, you know that tempers have been lost. The term of abuse is as serious as it is almost obscene.

If you heard one German shout "Communist!" at another German under the Nazi regime, you held your breath and looked to see if anyone else had noticed.

The charge was libellous if untrue, punishable with arrest, concentration camp and torture if true.

The two political systems regard each other as the ultimate abomination. Yet under both of them men's lives and thoughts are regimented and controlled "for the good of the community."

Under both, political theory is imposed where it is not accepted; opposition is forcibly suppressed; one party holds unchallenged power; there is no freedom of speech or of the Press; there are no guarantees against arbitrary imprisonment, torture, or death; there is increasing fear of the secret police.

The practical similarities of the two systems seem great enough to outweigh any conceivable differences. What are the differences which enable Fascists to regard Communists as incarnate devils and vice-versa?

Two Groups

If you comb carefully through the jumble of contemporary history in search of the answer, you will almost certainly end up with two main groups of difference—or apparent difference:

1. The difference of origin—the Left-Wingness of Communism and Right-Wingness of Fascism;

2. The difference of scope—the narrow nationalism of Fascism, the broad internationalism of Communism.

The difference of origin is important because it gives both parties their battle-cry. It explains why the Communists ac-

cuse Fascism of being the last desperate refuge of Capitalism—the final reinforcement of the rich in their exploitation of the poor.

And it explains why the Fascists imagine themselves as crusaders fighting off a diabolical threat to the most cherished values of mankind.

Communism, so far, has come to power either through a brilliantly led Left-Wing revolution (as in Russia) or else through use or abuse of the normal processes of parliamentary democracy (as in the Iron Curtain countries).

Fear-Inspired

Fascism, so far, has been a fear-inspired reaction to the real or fancied threat of Communism, revolution, and chaos. It is born when a sufficiently powerful group of men begin to feel that democracy is too gentle and tolerant to meet the threat—that strong and ruthless measures are necessary.

Communism has captured the most extreme Left-Wing political position available. Nothing could be Leftier. Therefore, it is supported by the poorest, neediest, bitterest and most unsuccessful members of the population.

Fascism, as an insurance against Communism, inevitably stands a little farther to the Right. It is supported by those who foresee chaos and disaster in rule by the poorest and most unsuccessful; supported, in fact, by the richer and more successful—by the people who have more to lose.

So, in theory, Communism is liable to be dictatorship by the Left-hand half of the country, and Fascism dictatorship by the Right-hand half. But the ingredient of totalitarianism is common to both.

Same Formula

And that is what gives the strongest flavour to the life of the country. It reduces both systems to variations of the same form of government. And

just as all religious fanatics hate heretics worse than infidels, so Communism hates Fascism with an especially bitter hatred.

The difference of scope—nationalism versus internationalism—is of far greater importance.

Fascism, in all the examples so far available, is a nationalistic creed, thriving on crude, narrow patriotism.

As a reaction against the world-religion of Communism it is bound to put excessive em-

phasis on nationalism. Soon it builds up a shallow, jingoistic mythology, a counter-mythology to Communism.

It glorifies the Army as the natural symbol of national strength. It begins to aim at economic self-sufficiency. It exploits and exaggerates grievances against other nations.

It walls itself in with its creed. Its philosophy is never one that can be exported. It may find admirers abroad who dream of producing the same thing in their own countries. But it can never spread its exact creed, for its creed is essentially confined to the chosen race.

When Fascism goes abroad, it goes as an army, enslaving the bodies, not the minds, of men.

But Communism was conceived as a world system. It claims to be a universal faith, applicable to all mankind. Its original theory rejected nationalism as primitive tribalism inevitably leading to war. Its first prophets were not Russians at all, but Germans.

Like all religions it spreads by conversion. Its philosophy is far profounder than any Fascism, and far more attractive to the poor and unsatisfied. It offers itself as the political, economic and spiritual remedy for the entire globe.

Unhappily for the theory, Soviet Russia's history has forced her into nationalism. Things

did not turn out quite as Marx predicted. Russia found herself the solitary Communist country in a hostile world.

She could not be international in the circumstances. On the contrary, she was forced to build up a standing army—a thing which all the Communist prophets had bitterly denounced. And then she had to fight a war, which is the ultimate essence of nationalism.

Russia's Creed

Circumstances have forced Russia to behave much more like a Fascist country than a Communist one. But internationalism is still her official creed.

Within the U.S.S.R. there are dozens of nations living together in real or enforced amity (at any rate, no wars between them are possible).

The Iron Curtain countries are virtually part of the Russian Commonwealth. Their trade will be interlocked with Russia's and they will have no need of armies vis-a-vis each other or Russia; Moscow will keep the peace.

And the Communist parties abroad are missionary bodies whose leaders feel greater loyalty to Communism than they do to their own countries.

So Communism, on paper, at least, aims at world peace on the basis of all men subscribing to a common system and belief. Fascism can only aim at world peace on the basis of one nation dominating the entire world.

Fascism of the type that has so far appeared can, in fact, lend only to a network of selfish and rampant nationalisms which ultimately must result in war.

The Question

The question now before the world is: Will Russia be content with trying to convert the world, or will she try to dominate it? Will she behave like a Communist State or a Fascist State?

She will certainly go on calling herself a Communist State. And will that provoke America into a Fascist reaction (called, of course, "Anti-Fascism"), with the forcible suppression of Communism and the enthronement of a mystical "American way of life" and all the rest of the familiar clap-trap?

Or can true democracy prevail?

THE SECOND OF TWO ARTICLES BY

Alexander Clifford

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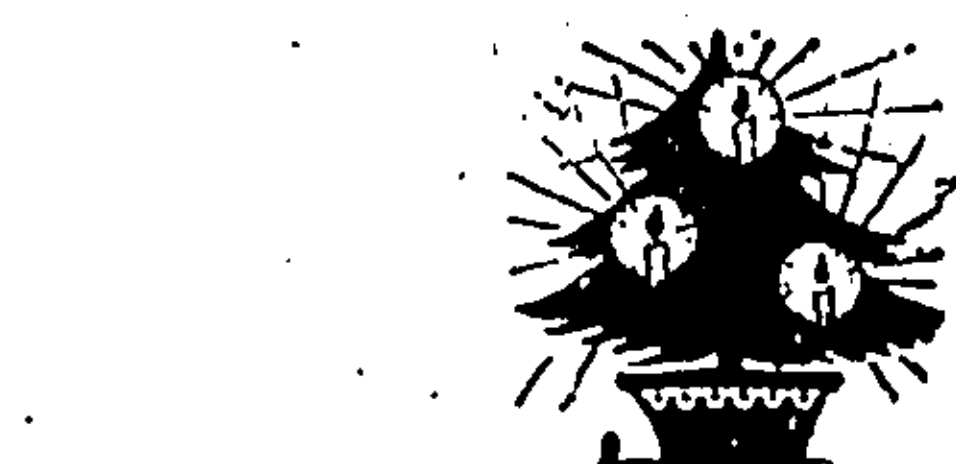
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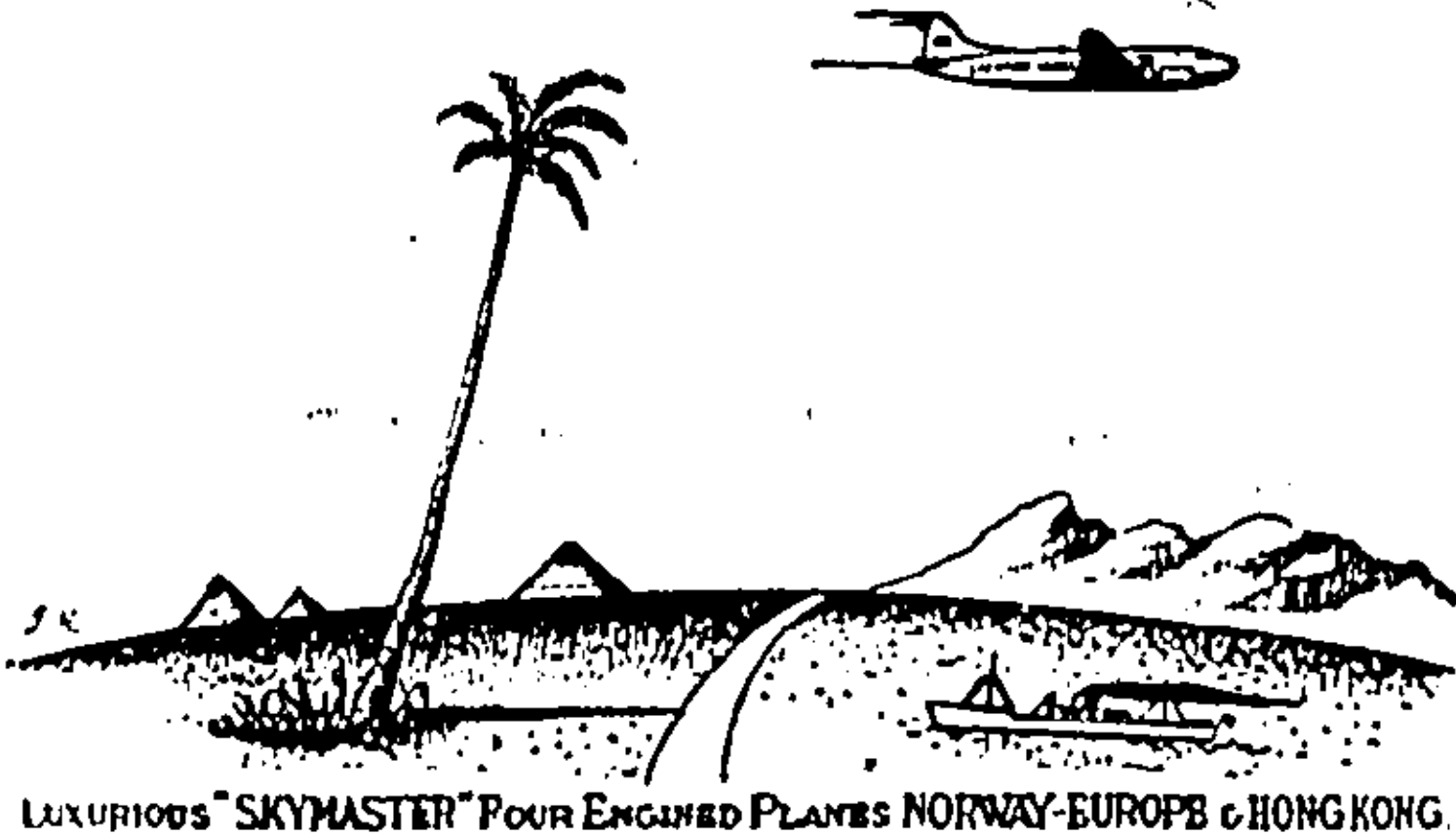
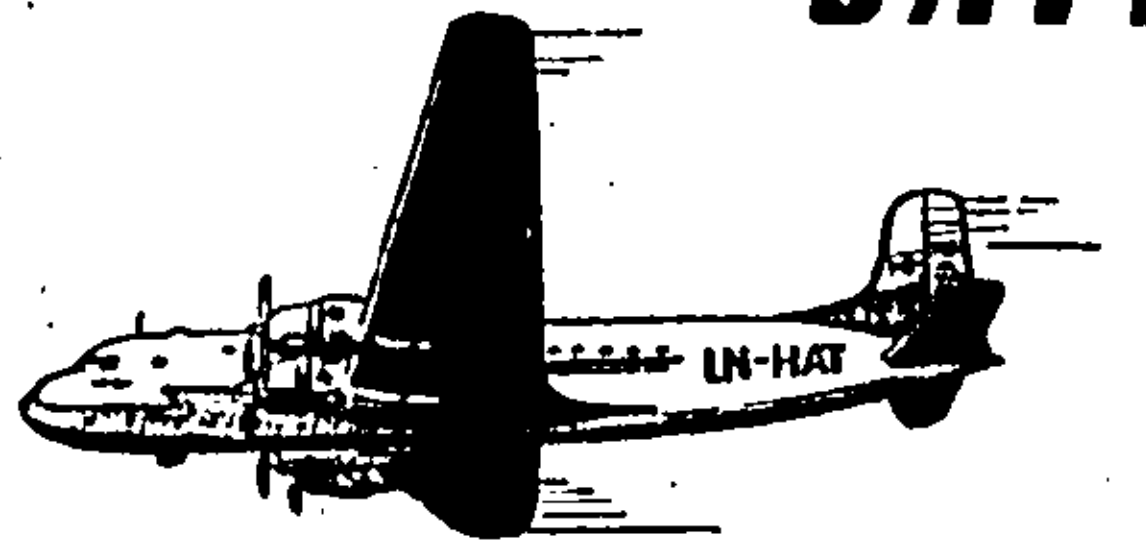
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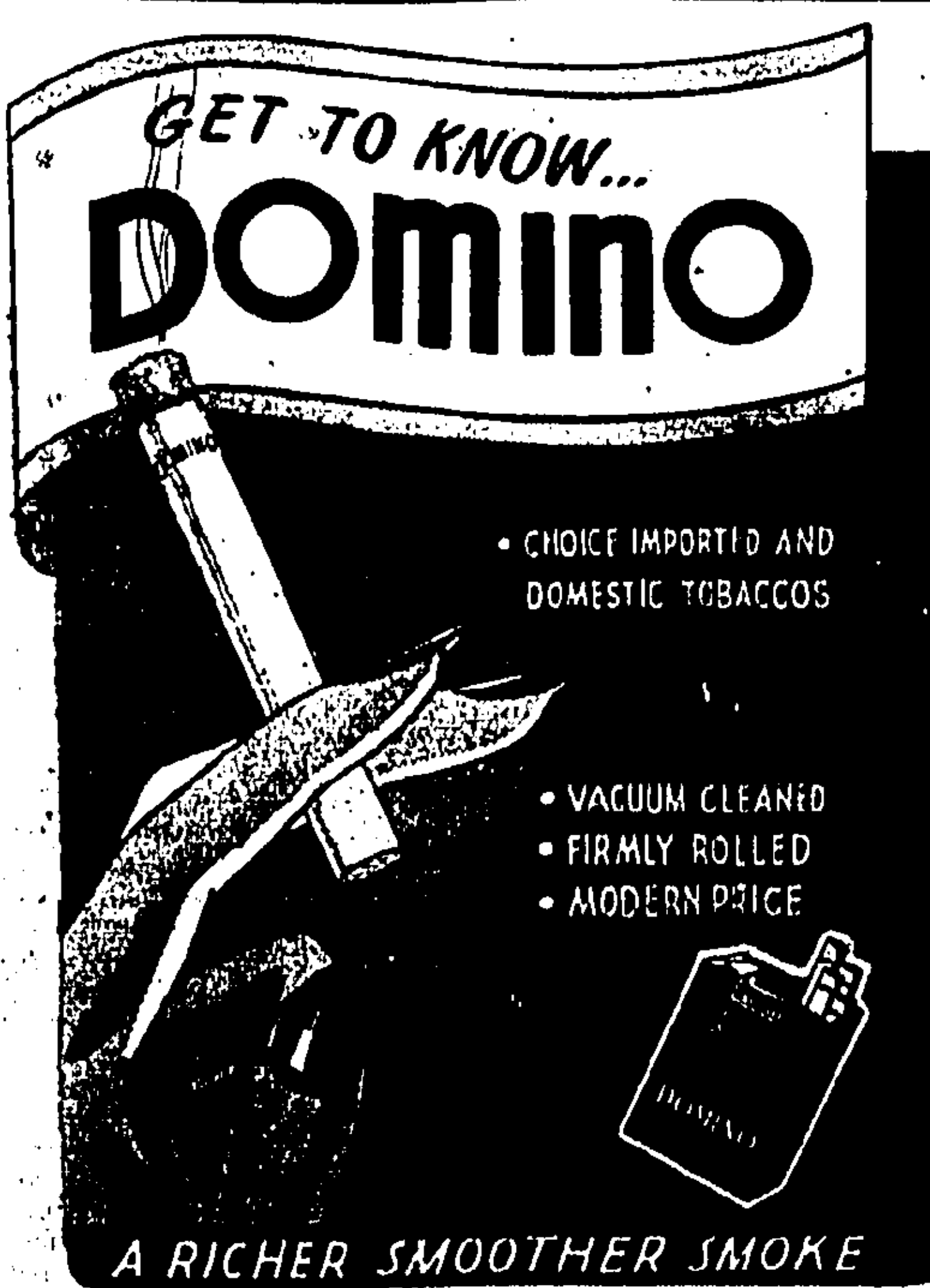
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ARABS ON THE RAMPAGE

Seek Vengeance For Damascus Gate Incident

British Police Among The Casualties

Jerusalem, Dec. 29. Infuriated Arabs stormed through the streets of Jerusalem's Old City today in search of Jews to avenge the nine Arabs killed by Irgun terrorists, who flung a powerful bomb from a speeding car into the crowded Damascus Gate orange market. Two British constables were killed—one when terrorists sprayed the area with machinegun fire before the explosion, and one when a group of Arabs opened fire afterwards.

New Prize For War Museum

London, Dec. 29. A shell of the Schwere Gustav, I, said to be the largest gun in the world, built by Krupps, has arrived in the Imperial War Museum.

Designed under the code name of Dora at the end of 1937, the gun weighed 1,500 tons. It had a very long barrel—made in two parts and screwed together in the middle—and was capable of firing a seven and a half ton shell up to a range of 28 miles. The calibre was 31.496 inches.

Schwere Gustav I was used in the siege of Sevastopol from 1941 to 1942, and a second gun was built for use against Leningrad. The gun, emplaced on railway tracks, was served by 1,600 men commanded by a Major-General.

At one time, plans were made to fire across the Straits of Dover at London, using a rocket propellant in the base of the shell. These were later abandoned.—Reuter.

Bonus Battle In Shanghai

Shanghai, Dec. 30. The Bureau of Social Affairs' year-end bonus committee today ruled that all year-end gratuities, which in principle should be one month's salary, be paid before January 15th.

However, 23 labour-management disputes have already been reported in connection with the bonuses. In some cases the workers demanded more than one month's wages, while in others the management sought permission to make a smaller payment due to the business slump.

The British-owned Yeatsong Tobacco Company workers (British American Tobacco Company) staged a "go slow" strike in a dispute over the mode of payment although the management agreed to one month's wages.

The workers demanded payment before January 15th while the Company suggested that the final payment be made before February 5th.—United Press.

British Tin For Russia

London, Dec. 30. A Board of Trade spokesman said today that Britain will start deliveries of tin to Russia under the new trade pact as soon as details have been worked out with the Russian-buying agencies in Britain. Moscow Radio said earlier that Russia will send Britain 750,000 tons of coarse grains instead of the 500,000 tons of animal feedstuffs previously reported.

The British spokesman said he did not know whether the shipments would be from stockpiles in Britain or from Malaya, which produces the world's highest grade ore. He said talks on the shipments will begin in the near future.—Associated Press.

MARSHALL PLAN WARNING

Washington, Dec. 29. An Administration source said today that if the European recovery programme fails or is rejected by Congress and Europe goes to the Communists, the United States may have to spend as much as \$20,000,000,000 a year on defence.

The recovery programme, entailing \$17,000,000,000 for 16 European countries, is worth trying as a lifeline way out even though results cannot be guaranteed. In the Administration's view, a drastic reduction of the four-year programme by Congress ultimately would require a longer programme to put Europe back on its feet. It argued that chances of success would diminish as the amount of aid is curtailed, particularly in the first year.—United Press.

The bodies of the dead and injured lay among scattered oranges. The Government Hospital reported two more Arab deaths to the police officially reported, and at least 37 injured.

Within ten minutes of the explosion Irgun Zvai Leumi, Jewish terrorist organisation, telephoned Hebrew journalists and claimed responsibility, saying the Damascus Gate was a "fine place for Arab gangsters."

Most of the casualties—which were known to include Arab women and children—occurred among the crowd at a bus stop near an Arab cafe.

A carload of armed Arabs rushed through the Old City in pursuit of a Jewish taxi, which was trying to escape into the Jewish quarter.

Vengeance

When the taxi's escape had been blocked, the Arabs shot dead the two Jewish occupants and then set fire to the taxi.

One other British constable was wounded at the Damascus Gate, and another was shot dead by unknown gunmen—believed to be Arabs—in a fight near the Austrian Hospital, also in the Old City.

Dr. C. Malouf, an Arab physician in charge of the Mental Hospital at Bethlehem, was shot dead today on the road to Bethlehem. Arab sources claimed that he was killed by Jews as a reprisal for the murder yesterday of a Jewish doctor near the Government Isolation Hospital outside Jerusalem.

One British soldier was killed and two were wounded when armed men wearing battle dress and steel helmets attacked an armoured car of Joffa. The bandits stole 74 rifles, 3,000 rounds of ammunition, and a number of Sten guns and pistols.

Mobilisation Fund

The Jewish Agency's mobilisation fund launched last month with a target of \$500,000 for "security" purposes, will reach \$600,000 by December 31, a Jewish Agency spokesman said today.

Similar security funds were now being launched in South Africa and the United States with unlimited ceilings, the spokesman added.—Reuter.

Kite-Flying For Spain?

Washington, Dec. 29. There was no reason why Spain should not become a partner in the Marshall plan, authoritative circles said here today, but they could not confirm London newspaper reports that the Foreign Ministers of France, Britain and the United States had agreed in London to include her.

They said that Spain would first have to be accepted by the 16 nations which took part in the Paris Conference for European recovery and would have to give assurances of her determination to join the cooperative effort.

The opinion here was that the more states with bona fide objectives that could be brought into the European recovery plan the better the chances the plan had of success.

It was conceded that Spain had something to contribute as well as to gain from a stable European economy.

Helicopter Crash

Naples, Dec. 30. Three American Navy men were killed today when a helicopter from the aircraft carrier Midway lost its rotor and fell into a scrap iron dump in the port of Naples.

The rotor fell in several pieces from a considerable altitude. Then the ship crashed.—Associated Press.

Iraq Cancels Army Leave

Baghdad, Dec. 29. Iraq today cancelled all leave for army officers, doctors and nurses, it was officially learned.

The Palestine Defence Committee said that volunteers had been leaving the capital for undisclosed destinations during the past three days.

Among the volunteers examined by doctors in Baghdad mosques during the past 24 hours were ex-servicemen, tribesmen and students.—Reuter.

Jews Split Over Communism

Jerusalem, Dec. 29. The Jewish Agency for Palestine has apparently split on the issue of Communism as 17,040 new illegal immigrants have sailed for Palestine from behind the iron curtain.

The split is indicated, informed observers state, by the resignation of Moshe Sneh, head of the Agency's European office, on Sunday in protest against Anglo-American orientation of the Agency's foreign policy.

It was reported that he favoured closer cooperation with Russia and the Communist-dominated Balkan

Mustangs Crash In Mid-Air

Kure, Dec. 30. Headquarters of the 31st Australian Fighter Wing announced that two American pilots of the Fifth Air Force were killed on Sunday morning when their Mustangs collided in mid-air over Bofu airfield.

The names are being withheld pending notification to the next of kin.

Eye-witnesses said the two planes, which were on their way back to their base in Northern Kyushu, were flying over Bofu at about 1,000 feet in a farewell salute when the aircraft touched each other.

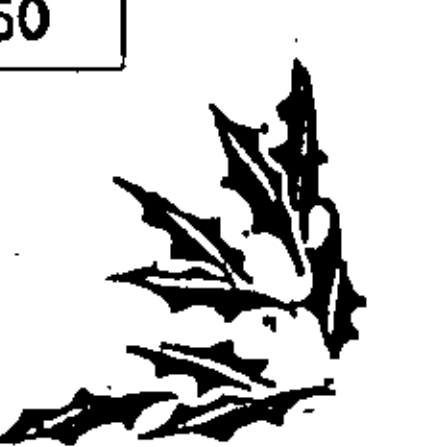
One plane crashed into the hillside out of control while the other spiralled into the sea a few hundred yards from the coast.

Rescue parties recovered the bodies of both fliers.—United

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Antonio Di Dondio (at microphone), secretary of the Proletarian Committee, Bari Chamber of Labour (central union office), stands on a balcony, in addition to a large gathering in Bari, following the termination of the recent general strike in Southern Italy.—(AP Photo)

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Michael **Leaves** **Rumania**

Bucharest, Dec. 30.
 King Michael, of Rumania, abdicated today. Later the Republic of Rumania was formally established.

The abdication of the King will be announced officially to the Rumanian people by radio at 6 p.m. local time tonight, the Rumanian Government announced.

News of King Michael's abdication was made in the outward transmission of a Bucharest Radio Russian broadcast at 4.30 p.m. GMT.

The Radio announcement said: "Today, Dec. 30, 1947, King Michael I signed an instrument in which he abdicates the Rumanian throne, lays down all Royal prerogatives on his own behalf and on behalf of his heirs."

King Michael gave as the reason for his abdication the fact that deep political, economic and social changes have taken place in Rumania during the past few years which created a new relationship between the principal factors governing the national life.

The announcement continued: "In view of the situation thereby created, the King considers that a monarchy no longer corresponds with the existing conditions of Rumania's national life and is a serious obstacle on the road to the country's development."

King Michael's abdication was justified in that a monarchy would hinder the realisation and the development of Rumania's democratisation, the Radio announcement added.—Reuter.

AIR LINER'S **MISHAP**

Copenhagen, Dec. 30.
 A Danish Airlines plane from Paris crash-landed in shallow waters 300 yards offshore from Kastrup airport tonight but remained intact. Officials said only three of the 14 persons aboard were injured.

Snow-laden wings forced the plane into the water as it settled for a landing.

Motor launches rescued the passengers and crew.—Associated Press.

YUNGCHENG TAKEN **BY CHINESE REDS**

Nanking, Dec. 30.
 After bitter fighting lasting more than two weeks Yungcheng fell to Communist forces late yesterday afternoon, according to a reliable source close to military headquarters in Nanking this morning.

The city was heavily shelled by Communists during the past week and was reported to be a shambles when the forces commanded by Generals Wang Chen and Li Shien-lien under cover of a heavy artillery barrage, stormed and entered the city yesterday.

This is the last Nationalist bastion in Shensi province and the fall of this city is said to be comparable with the fall of Shichiaochang early in November. However, a local Chinese daily this morning claimed that Government troops are still fighting stubbornly and have inflicted more than 12,000 casualties on the Communists.

Military despatches from Sian report that General Lei Wen-chien, the garrison commander of Yungcheng, was killed in the fighting and telecommunication with the city has been cut.

Another report states that Government reinforcements which were dispatched from Peiping have been surrounded by Communist forces in the Chungfiao mountains.

Meanwhile, the Communist seventh offensive which began more than a week ago is still raging in Manchuria and they are reported to have penetrated the outer defences of Mukden.

Government warplanes are reported to be bombing and strafing the attackers and have inflicted heavy losses on the Communists.

Other despatches, meanwhile, claim that Communist forces are still conducting large-scale attacks on the Chinghai section of the Peiping-Mukden Railway and preventing the movements of Government reinforcements from Peiping.—Reuter.

Big Smuggling **Haul Alleged**

"Imprisoned" for more than 10 days and nights on board the 3,000-ton Norwegian ship, "Prosper", 146 passengers are threatening to riot and use violence unless the Chinese Customs authorities of Amoy free the vessel the "China Mail" learned from shipping circles last night.

The "Prosper" has been detained in Amoy harbour since December 20 on arrival from Hong Kong and Swatow. The Chinese Customs there discovered a considerable quantity of unmanifested cargo (presumably by passenger-smugglers) and imposed a fine of CN\$4,000,000,000 on the ship. Payment in cash was demanded.

Local shipping circles told the "China Mail" that even a guarantee offered personally by the Norwegian Ambassador to China, Mr. N. Aall (who flew from Nanking to try and obtain the release of the ship), and counter-signed by the Amoy branch of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was rejected by the Deputy Chinese Customs Commissioner in Amoy.

The Norwegian Ambassador personally assured the Chinese Customs authorities that the fine would be paid on condition but reserved his right to protest in accordance with the Chinese Maritime Customs Preventive Code.

Insistence

The Chinese Deputy Customs Commissioner, while reducing the fine to CN\$2,660,550,000 insisted on immediate payment without any qualifications.

He also refused to arrest the alleged owners of the unmanifested cargo.

Reference

Under the command of Captain A. S. Bugge, the "Prosper" plys between the Straits, Hong Kong, Swatow and Amoy and was about to make a return trip when it was detained with all the passengers on board.

The case now rests with the Norwegian Ambassador and the Inspector-General of Customs in Shanghai to whom the matter has been referred.

The Norwegian Ambassador has since returned to Nanking. The "Prosper" is a Norwegian-owned vessel, the local agents for which is the Everett Steamship Corporation.

Survivors **Of Kina** **In Manila**

Manila, Dec. 30.
 The remaining survivors from the "Kina" arrived in Manila this evening after a journey from Calbayog by sea to Masbate whence they came by a plane specially chartered by the ship's agents.

Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Pedersen and their daughter Inge praised the crew's calmness and courage in combating the towering seas in the midst of lashing rain and wind in the darkest night.

Mrs. Pedersen said: "Were it not for the brave crew we would not be here."

After nine terrifying hours of sitting in a semi-submerged lifeboat with water up to the armpits, they landed in coastal Samar.

The villagers immediately assisted with food and dry clothing.

Mr. Pedersen said that they knew the situation was dangerous and were all standing up when the ship struck.

He added that there was no panic. Inge said that she was more seasick in today's journey.

Hope Lost

Commander, "Chick" Parsons—famed Mindanao guerrilla organizer and General MacArthur's representative—supervised search operations discontinued after an examination of all uninhabited islets.

He added that there were still hopes that survivors may be discovered in any of the hundreds of small scattered villages.

Mr. Parsons stated that the Kina was sunk between 40 and 50 fathoms and there was an oil slick two miles east of Camandag Island.

Heinrich, Matti, fears that there is no hope of his brother Dennis, since he was among the 15 occupants of the lifeboat who was not seen after he had collapsed into the hatch.

Accompanying the Kina's party in the plane were Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Hall from the Far Eastern Lumber Company, travelling by barge from Caguitan to Calbayog, who were wrecked near Malaga, where fishermen swam out with ropes and saved them.—Reuter.

Award For Gallantry **Major Esmonde Receives** **The Military Cross**



Major (Dr.) Patrick Esmonde yesterday received the Military Cross for displaying "great courage in establishing a Casualty Evacuation Post across the Rhine in 1945 and successfully evacuating without delay many casualties."

Dr. Esmonde is a brother of the late Lieutenant-Commander E. Esmonde, DSO, who won the Victoria Cross, posthumously, following a naval action in the Straits of Dover in 1942.

The action resulted in the sinking of the German battleship, "Scharnhorst" and three other German warships.

Another brother, Commander Witham Esmonde, OBE, was awarded the DSC for action in the sinking of the German battleship, Bismarck, in 1941.

He is at present in Scotland.—China Mail Photo.

41 Decorated **For Gallantry**

Awards for gallantry and meritorious service were made at Government House yesterday morning when the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, presented insignia to 41 recipients.

The hall of Government House was gallily decorated for the occasion, and included in the large number of guests present to witness the ceremony were the heads of the Three Services;

leading officials and citizens, and their ladies.

The Governor in ceremonial dress, made the presentation to each recipient as the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. E. H. Williams, read out the citation.

Following were the awards:—Colonel W. T. Grimstad, C.B.E. (M.I.C.)—For gallant and distinguished service in North West Europe.

Sub-Lieutenant R. G. Stanton R.N.R. D.S.O.—Sub-Lieut. Stanton as First Lieutenant of the "I. Wo" and her only surviving officer, showed steadfast courage in the face of overwhelming odds in action between Singapore and Batavia in February 1942.

Major E. G. Stewart D.S.O.—Major Stewart displayed great gallantry and initiative in the hostilities in Hong Kong in 1941, and although wounded early in the fighting at Wong Nei Chung continued to command his company with a total disregard to his own suffering.

During the fighting at Wong Nei Chung, Major Stewart's company suffered 100 casualties in officers and men in Close Rank.

Mr. R. W. Paterson, O.B.E.—Mr. Paterson performed outstanding services during internment.

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant A. E. Kew, M.B.E. (M.I.C.)—Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Kew was awarded the M.B.E. in 1942 for long and faithful service in the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps.

Major Patrick Esmonde, M.C.—Major Esmonde displayed great courage in establishing a Casualty Evacuation Post across the Rhine in March 1945 and successfully evacuating without delay many casualties.

(Continued on Page 2)

Bandits Again Make **Fire Raid**

The goods in the carriage were destroyed. A number of passengers received minor burns and bruises. Two, however, were seriously injured as a result of leaping from the moving train.

The last attempt to stop a train occurred on December 10. The train, fortunately overhauled the point where it was planned to loot it, as it apparently did again on Sunday.

The Canton messages added that two suspects have been detained by the Canton police on charges of being involved in the December 10 attempt.

Admitting cries of "Fire! Fire!" several men clad in kachikoloured clothes were seen jumping from the burning carriage. Several men and women passengers followed.

When the train stopped, gendarmes and railway guards used water and fire extinguishers to put out the fire. Most of

BARREL BOMBS FALL **AMONG ARABS**

47 Killed In Struggle At Haifa

Jerusalem, Dec. 30.
 Two "barrel bombs" thrown from a speeding car among 100 Arab labourers standing by the main gate of the Consolidated Oil refinery plant in Haifa today caused "heavy Arab casualties," according to a police report.

The "barrel bombs" were said to be similar in type to the one which killed 13 Arabs and wounded more than 30 at the Damascus Gate, Jerusalem, yesterday. An official report said that the situation was under control after troops and police had been rushed to the spot.

The Arabs then turned on the Jewish workers employed at the plant and stabbed many of them to death.

British troops later pulled out 20 Jews killed or wounded in the riot.

An official announcement said that 47 persons had been killed in the fighting at the refinery.

The dead are 36 Jews and 11 Arabs. Sixty-one were injured of whom 14 were Jews and 47 Arabs.

Open Revolt

Meanwhile, a Prague report says the "Young Turk" wing of Hagana is in open revolt against the Jewish authorities in Palestine.

Chiang's New **Year Call** **To Nation**

Nanking, Dec. 30.
 President Chiang Kai-shek will broadcast a New Year's speech on a nationwide tomorrow evening.

He will be followed on the air by Secretary-General of the Kuomintang Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek who will speak on the "Great Path to Democracy."—United Press.

This faction, the informant said, gave the order for two American ships carrying 12,000 Rumanian Jews illegal immigrant to Palestine to set sail from Burgas, Bulgarian against express instructions of David Ben Gurion, head of the Jewish Agency.

He said Hagana officials in Rumania ordered the Pan York and the Pan Crescent to leave Burgas not only because local conditions were untenable but because of fears that further emigration of Rumanian Jews would soon be cut off by the Rumanian Government.

The informant, an underground worker who left Burgas within the week, said the widespread revolt of Hagana workers in Europe followed the Jewish Agency's decision to suspend emigration after partition was announced.

The fight was carried into the recent high policy meeting without success and decisions to ignore Jewish Agency orders were taken on the grounds that the Palestine authorities refused to recognise the urgency of the situation in Europe.

He said the resignation on Sunday of Dr. Moshe Shohat, head of the Jewish Agency's European section was a direct result of this dispute.

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Big Bank **Robbery** **Staged?**

Rumours of a large-scale bank robbery in the heart of the city late yesterday afternoon, in which lakhs were said to be involved, later turned out to be a "staged" affair, according to the Police.

Report of the alleged robbery first came through at 6.44 p.m. when four armed men were said to have robbed the Farmers Bank of China (whose premises are at the corner of Ice House Street and Des Voeux Road Central) after knocking unconscious the Bank's cashier.

One of the alleged robbers was arrested by the Bank's night watchman.

When the Police under Det. Inspector Williamson arrived, the alleged robber and the cashier were taken to Central.

The cashier, who said he had been knocked unconscious, refused to go to hospital, it was reported.

Late last night the Police revealed that the report was a false one.

The whole thing was probably "an inside affair" and alleged robber who was probably an accomplice, they said.

A "China Mail" reporter, who interviewed an official of the Farmers Bank about three hours after the alleged robbery, was told there was in fact no robbery at all and that the whole thing was an "inside job" which would be dealt with by the Bank officials themselves.

The amount involved, it was reliably learnt, was in the vicinity of \$30,000 to \$40,000.

BAO DAI HAS **LANDED IN** **LONDON**

London, Dec. 30.
 Bao Dai, exiled emperor of Annam, arrived here today from Hong Kong aboard a British plane on a mission apparently aimed at settlement of a dispute with the French over the future of Indo-China.

Saigon despatches to Paris newspapers quoted well-informed sources as saying a three-point offer had been transmitted to Bao Dai by the French.—Associated Press.

Notice of Removal

WE WISH TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC THAT
 ON FRIDAY, 2ND JANUARY, 1948

OUR HONG KONG OFFICE WILL BE MOVED

from

SECOND FLOOR, PRINCE'S BUILDING,
 (DES VOEUX ROAD, CENTRAL)

to

GROUND FLOOR, PRINCE'S BUILDING,
 (CORNER OF ICE HOUSE STREET & CHATER ROAD.)

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Prince's Building.

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WANTED TO BUY

ARTISTS Quality Watercolours wanted urgently. Can anyone sell or lend few of good make new or partly used. Box 340 "China Mail".

FOR SALE

UNDERWOOD LATEST MODEL just arrived. Lowest price. Also Typewriters for rent. Service guaranteed. Tel. 27682. Universal Typewriter Co., 22 Des Voeux Road, C., 1st. floor.

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LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Appraisers, 6 Pedder Building, Telephone No. 20224

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned will sell by Public Auction on

Wednesday, the 31st December 1947

commencing at 10 a.m.

at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building, Basement

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF VEHICLES, AERO ENGINES AND STORES

Located at R. A. F. Disposal Site, Matukok Road, Kowloon.

Sea Transport Office, Wellington Barracks, Hong Kong.

No. 7 Store, H.M. Naval Dockyard, Hong Kong.

Naval Store Shed, Taikoo Sugar Refinery, Hong Kong.

N. S. Main Office Compound, H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong.

China Fleet Club Compound, Hong Kong.

Full Particulars and Terms of Sale as per advertisement published on 27th, 28th and 29th December 1947.

LAMMERT BROS. Auctioneers.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

Saturday the 3rd January 1948 commencing at 10.45 a.m.

at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building, Basement

A LARGE QUANTITY OF MISCELLANEOUS GOODS comprising:—

White Shirting, Copper Flat Bars, Galvanized Iron Sheets and Plates, Iron Ware and Truck, Machinery Parts, Tin Plates, Galvanized Wire, Iron Plates and Hooks, Bolts and Nuts, Round and Square Bars, White Powder, Zinc Oxide, Dyes, Paint, Black Liquid, Rubber, Paper Glass Bottles etc.

On view on day of Sale.

Terms: 50% of the Purchase Money on Fall of Hammer and the Balance by Monday the 5th January 1948.

LAMMERT BROS. Auctioneers.

FOR SALE

TENDERS are invited for the purchase of surplus vehicles, plant, scrap, etc., now lying in H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong.

Applications for particulars and Forms of tenders may be made IN WRITING to the Superintendent Civil Engineer, H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong, not later than Tuesday, 6th January, 1948.

Tenders will be required to be submitted not later than Friday, 16th January, 1948.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

(Garden Road)

New Year's Services

31st DEC. 1947.

11.30 p.m. Watchnight Service Sung Eucharist.

1st. JANUARY, 1948. The Feast of the Circumcision.

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion (in English)

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (in Chinese)

Service Auction Rooms

Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc. Basement, French Bank Bldg., A.E.B. de Sousa, Auctioneer Telephone 31867.

TAI HANG JEWELLERY

Sole Agents For Liberty Diamond Cutting Works (Pty) Ltd.

JOHANNESBURG SOUTH AFRICA

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG

PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS of ALEXANDER CHRISTIE SINTON late of No 3 Belfram Road, Kowloon in the Colony of Hong Kong, Sanitary Inspector, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Court has by virtue of Section 68 of the Probates Ordinance 1897, made an Order limiting the time for creditors and others to send in their claims against the above estate to the 17th day of January 1948.

All Creditors and others are accordingly hereby required to send their claims to the undersigned on or before that date.

Dated the 20th day of Dec. 1947.

WILKINSON & GRIST,

Solicitors for the Administrator of the estate of the said deceased.

No. 2 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

Notice To Shareholders

NOTICE is hereby given that the ONE HUNDRED and TWENTY THIRD ORDINARY MEETING of Shareholders in the Company, will be held at the Office of the Company, Queen's Building, Victoria, Hong Kong, on Monday, 12th January, 1948, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts in respect of 1946 and Re-electing Directors and Auditors.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

H. DA LUZ,

Secretary.

Hongkong, 24th Dec., 1947.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY OF HONG KONG

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS

Founder members, (i.e. those who before December 31st evinced their desire to join the Society) do not need a proposer or seconder they should merely complete the remainder of the form and send it to the Hon. Sec. c/o Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Export Co., Ltd., Holland House.

W. A. ANKERSON, (Hon. Secretary)

NOTICE

We have pleasure in announcing that we have been appointed Sole Agents in Hong Kong for I. & R. Morley Ltd. of 1 Wood Street, London, as from 1st January, 1948.

For JOHN D. HUTCHISON & CO., LTD.

P. S. CASSIDY,

Managing Director.

Hongkong, 31st Dec., 1947.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that

DELTA COMPANY (大連洋行)

of Whiteaway Laidlaw Bldg. is in no way connected with

(港粵大連運輸貿易行)

of 16 Des Voeux Road.

B.B.C. RUNS INTO TWO SORTS OF TROUBLE

Free Trip To N.Z.

SOUTHAMPTON, DEC. 29. MORE THAN 500 SINGLE MEN AND WOMEN EMIGRANTS SAILED FOR NEW ZEALAND IN THE LINER ATLANTIS FROM HERE YESTERDAY.

Their ages were between 25 and 30.

They were the first large group of British emigrants chosen by the New Zealand Government and are mostly ex-service men and women who will pay no fare. All have jobs to go to.

No married emigrants are going to New Zealand at present because of the shortage of houses. The women now travelling will live in nurses' homes, hospitals and hostels and the men will go to hostels or huddled camps.

China Urged To Be Cautious

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

Influential Chinese are urging the Chinese Government to stay away from any Japanese peace conference in which Soviet Russia is not participating.

This view is set forth in an unusual article appearing in the liberal "Ta Kung Pao" signed by 62 persons, including newspaper editors, bankers and businessmen.

The "Ta Kung Pao" has a record for independent thinking. Owned by the Political Science clique of the Kuomintang of which Premier Chang Chun is head, it also is a round-up board on occasion for Nanking.

The article, which asks the major powers to accept the Chinese Government's proposal for a preliminary peace conference is especially significant because Shanghai leaders have im-

portant influence on the government.

China's suggestion is that the preliminary gathering should include the eleven nations concerned in the war with Japan, subject to America, Britain, China and Russia exercising a virtual veto. This represents a compromise between the extremes offered by the Soviet Union on one hand and the Americans on the other.

The article warns China not to be hasty in concluding a Japanese peace but to wait for a more "opportune moment" before calling the conference rather than surrender any of the principles China is insisting on.

Fiancee Shot Dead In Xmas Tragedy

London, Dec. 29.

Richard Stanley Morris, 30, of Bridge Road, Stanfree, accidentally shot his 29-year-old fiancee Sybil Marriott on Christmas Eve when he produced a revolver as a joke.

At today's inquest a verdict of accidental death was recorded. Morris, who was very distressed, said that on Christmas Eve, his birthday, Miss Marriott went with him into his parents' home to fill the children's stockings.

There were about a dozen people in the front room and his mother brought in a cockerel which they were having for dinner. He produced a six-chambered revolver which had been sent to him and jestingly said: "This is to keep poultry thieves away."

He then filled the chambers with cartridges and closed the revolver and was about to "break" it again to remove the cartridges when it went off.

Miss Marriott, who was sitting in an armchair about four yards away, exclaimed: "You have got me." He thought she was "gaming" so he put his arm around her neck but she collapsed and died.

The police stated that the revolver had a very light trigger.

SMALLPOX IN LEBANON

Bahdad, Dec. 29. Anti-smallpox vaccine sufficient for 200,000 doses was today sent from Iraq to help combat an epidemic of smallpox in the Lebanon.

The Chief Health Officer of the Mosul district of Northern Iraq has issued an appeal to the nation and the tribes to undergo immediate inoculation against cholera, cases of which have recently been reported from Syria.

The closing of Iraq's borders adjoining Syria and Turkey has been ordered and rail and road traffic suspended until further notice.

A ban has also been placed on the movements of nomadic tribes.

SENATOR LEFT H.K. VERY HURT

Philippines Senator Jose Topacio Nueno left Hong Kong yesterday for Manila with sore feelings and a determination to obtain redress from the China National Aviation Corporation for what he described as "physical and mental suffering."

On the eve of his departure by air for the Philippines capital, Senator Nueno said that he was determined to sue the corporation for damages amounting to US\$50,000 through its Manila office.

He said he had been greatly inconvenienced in China by the misdirection of his four suitcases from Manila.

He explained that when he arrived in Amoy from Manila on December 10 as a member of a Philippines Goodwill Mission to China he found his four suitcases had been misdirected to Hong Kong.

As a result, he could not make any social or official calls in the Chinese port as he possessed then only the kakhi uniform he wore when he left Manila.

It was not until a week later, he added, that he was informed that his suitcases were waiting for him in Shanghai.

Because of this delay, his programme in China was upset and he had to cancel his visit to Nanking and return to the Philippines.

Senator Nueno holds the rank of Colonel.

He fought with the Filipino guerilla forces during the war against the Japanese in the Philippines. He is a lawyer by profession.

Belgrade, Dec. 30. A priest, three nuns and nine other persons were sentenced to hard labour today by a court in Maribor on charges of helping war criminals to escape from Yugoslavia.—Associated Press.

oh-oh, Dry Scalp!



... RUN AND WASH your scalp with a scrub! Look at that scalp! It's all dried out... dull-looking... and full of loose dandruff, too. It's Dry Scalp, all right! Buddy, you'd better get wise and try "Vaseline" Hair Tonic!

Hair looks better... scalp feels better... when you check Dry Scalp



NO MORE DULL-LOOKING hair now, thanks to "Vaseline" Hair Tonic! A few drops a day help him... can help you, too. See the difference... hair looks well-groomed, and stays that way all day long... checks loose dandruff, too. "Vaseline" Hair Tonic contains no alcohol or other drying ingredients. Try it also with massage before every shampoo. It gives double care to both scalp and hair... and it's economical, too.

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Used by more men today than any other hair tonic

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DELIGHTED USERS EVERYWHERE ARE LEARNING FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE THE EXCEPTIONAL ADVANTAGES OF "ALASIL" TABLETS FOR THE RELIEF OF PAIN.

"Alasil" tablets contain the normal supply of the highest quality aspirin plus "Alocol", an effective antacid and stomach sedative. Thus "Alasil" will do anything that aspirin will do and MORE.

This special scientific combination of aspirin and "Alocol" makes "Alasil" tablets acceptable to everyone—even to those with sensitive digestions. Thus it helps to make the pain-relieving qualities of the aspirin more effective.

It is for this reason that "Alasil" has been so widely prescribed by the medical and dental professions. Keep "Alasil" by you and next time you need an aspirin take an "Alasil" and realise for yourself why thousands are switching to "Alasil".

Take "Alasil" for—Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Colds and Chills, Rheumatic Pains, Sciatica, Lumbago, Sleeplessness and Periodic Pains.

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TO-DAY ONLY **KING'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

M-G-M's BIGGEST TECHNICOLOR SPECTACLE!

FIESTA
(Where they live and love dangerously)

ESTHER WILLIAMS

TO-MORROW
* 5 SHOWS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY *
11.30 A.M., 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

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She Sings! She Dances! She's Terrific!

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TO-DAY ONLY **QUEEN'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

The Immortal Romance of England's Maid
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with John GIELGUD • Diana WYNYARD
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SHOWING TO-DAY **VICTORY** AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

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DIRECTING
JACARE
KILLER OF THE AMAZON!
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"BETTER THAN NOTHING" Truman Signs Emasculated Inflation Bill Objections To Restrictions

Washington, Dec. 29. President Truman today signed the Republican-sponsored anti-inflation bill passed by the recent special session of Congress.

In a stinging rebuke, President Truman said he would sign the bill because it contained some measures needed now, but complained that it contained only three minor points from the 10-point anti-inflation programme which he recommended to Congress in November.

Asserting that nearly everyone in the nation was feeling the pressure of exorbitant prices, President Truman said: "This bill fails to include key measures which are essential to an effective anti-inflation programme. This bill will not reduce the high cost of living, and it will not keep prices from going even higher."

Saying that he would sign the bill with "deep disappointment" because of its inadequacy, President Truman warned that "inflation and the high cost of living confront the American people—all the American people—with a grave danger."

Interference

Denouncing the interference with the powers of the President, Mr. Truman said: "Another part of the bill which gives me great concern is section six. This section proposes that the President submit to Congress extremely detailed and specific recommendations for mandatory and conservation measures for scarce commodities."

"Presumably Congress would then determine in each case whether the conservation measures proposed by the President should be adopted and what the details of the measures should be, and pass legislation authorising them to be put into effect."

"It has long been an established practice for Congress to enact regulatory measures in general terms, leaving it to the administrative agencies to determine when the measures should be applied, on a basis of standards and conditions established by Congress."

"This has proved to be a practical and workable system. Section six of this bill now proposes substantially to reverse this historic process."

Far Too Late

The President also denounced the bill for refusing to give the Executive the power to compel

business, industry and agriculture to comply, and said: "Every effort will be made, of course, to achieve whatever results are possible under the system of voluntary agreements. It is far too late in the fight against inflation, however, to place our main reliance upon voluntary action."

He appealed to Congress when it reconvenes in January to "enact promptly an effective and workable programme" to combat inflation.

President Truman gave details of the rise in prices since he addressed the special session of Congress on November 17. "When I spoke to Congress, a pound of butter in Washington cost 88 cents. Last week, here in Washington, butter reached a new high price of one dollar and five cents."

Snap Back

Republican leader Charles A. Halleck and Chairman Jesse P. Wolcott of the House Banking Committee snapped back that the bill, together with the powers the President previously held, is adequate to bring prices down.

Senator Wolcott added: "If prices are not brought down it will be the fault of the President and not Congress."

Senator Joseph Ball said the President's statement looked "pretty strongly like police" and Senator Halleck said the President was trying to revert to "radical New Dealism." He blamed the "disastrous loose fiscal policies of the administration" for high prices.

Democrats generally sided with Mr. Truman in denouncing the Republican anti-inflation bill as inadequate—Reuter and United Press.

Foreign Legion Escape Drama

Singapore, Dec. 29. Ten members of the French Foreign Legion who jumped overboard from the French troopship, *Marechal Joffre*, bound for Indo-China, and safely reached Sittawan, in West Malaysia, said in an interview today that they had been "shanghaied" into the Legion and would not be taken back into it alive.

The French authorities here, it was understood, unsuccessfully claimed custody of these men. Legally, had the Legionnaires deserted while the ship was in port, they would have had to be returned to the ship.

The Malayan Department of Immigration is considering whether the men, six of whom are Italian, two Swiss, one German and one Dutch, should be returned to their birthplace, their country of citizenship, or to the port of embarkation—Oran.

The Legionnaires disclosed that they were three days adrift on a raft without food and with only rain-water to drink before they were picked up.

The escaped Legionnaires alleged that life in the Legion was "inhuman" and that a few men who tried to escape from the *Marechal Joffre* in the Mediterranean into Spanish Morocco were recaptured and shot after severe punishment.

The escapes added that they believed that seven other Legionnaires, who jumped from the ship in the Malacca Straits, were drowned.

Tani Disserech, a 27-year-old Swiss from Calais, said that he was spending a holiday in France when he got drunk and, on waking in the

Dogs To Used Dumps

Singapore, Dec. 30. British Army authorities in Singapore propose to use war dogs to guard supply dumps against looting.

They have applied to the War Office for 50 dogs, of A'stanian blood strain or A'stanian mixed with the Labrador or Collie strains.

India's Air Force In Action

NEW DELHI, DEC. 29. RAF PLANES ATTACKED POSITIONS TAKEN UP BY RAIDING TRIBESMEN IN THE MIRPUR KOTLI AREA AND STRAFED THE RAIDERS ON THE URI ROAD. THE INDIAN DEFENCE MINISTRY SAID IN TONIGHT'S COMMUNIQUE ON THE FIGHTING IN KASHMIR.

Ammunition dumps were also destroyed by air bombing. Indian army troops shelled concentrations of raiders, inflicting casualties, the communiqué added.

Patrols using mortars engaged a party of raiders, who were carrying away loot and 200 cattle southwest of Deripatam.

In Bombay, two platoons of Indian troops, with Sten guns, were stationed at known storm centres in the industrial north of the city and a third stood by at police headquarters, as the biggest-ever one-day general strike of the city's half million workers began at midnight—Reuter.

UMBERTO FLYING TO EGYPT

Libson, Dec. 29. Prince Umberto, eldest son of ex-King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, was expected to leave here by air today for Alexandria, where his father died yesterday of a heart attack.

The former Crown-Prince, who had been living in Portugal since his father went into exile, first heard of Victor Emmanuel's illness yesterday in a cable asking him urgently to go to Egypt—Reuter.

Japanese Get Life Sentence

Ipoh, Dec. 30. A British War Crimes Tribunal, sitting in Taiping, has found three of four high-ranking Japanese officers guilty of using a Chinese political prisoner as a "guinea pig" in their experiments with what is locally known as the "Ipoh" poison, a highly deleterious tree-latex in common use among the aboriginal tribes of Malaysia.

Major Honjo Hiroshi, Capt. Utsu Nomiya and Capt. Hokamada Toshiko were sentenced to life imprisonment. Col. Otsuhiro Minoru, who, it was alleged, gave the order for the experiments was acquitted. The prosecution alleged that the experiment was carried out to study the effect of the "Ipoh" poison on the skin and blood of a human being. Prepared from the juice of the "Ipoh" tree with other ingredients, mainly arsenic, and possibly strychnine, scorpion, bee and snake venoms, the poison was extensively used by the natives of North Malaya and the Malay Islands for painting the tips of blowpipes arrows.

The trial lasted nearly a month. Witnesses, who had been employees or prisoners of the Japanese at the Ga-1, established that 20 prisoners in the condemned cells, Chan Pak was selected as being the fittest for the experiment.

Marks found on the deceased later gave the impression that blood had been drained from the body.

The sensational case had similar features to the medical experiment conducted by Nazi doctors in occupied Europe—Reuter.

NEW MOTOR TAX

London, Dec. 29. The new £10 flat rate car tax comes into force on Thursday for all new cars and those registered for the first time this year.

All the old cars will continue to be taxed at 2s. shillings per horsepower—Reuter.

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HIS GRIPED ERIC'S
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FROD HIMSELF—
HE'S TAKEN THE
BULL BY THE HORNS!

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DOWN!—SHALL THE
BULL LIVE OR DIE,
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TRADE TROUBLES

Britain's economic chief, Sir Stafford Cripps, whose responsibilities keep him constantly in the limelight is expected to utter a warning soon about an aspect of the struggle for recovery which has been overshadowed by the production drive. It is the problem of selling abroad what Britain produces.

The attainment of the export targets is being hampered by import restrictions in foreign markets. These barriers are raised because many foreign countries are in the same position as Britain—having a chronically unfavourable balance of payments, and thus being compelled, similarly, to restrict imports.

Britain is engaged in, or is about to engage in, trade negotiations with some 25 countries. These include Russia—Mr. Wilson's success in Moscow is a preliminary to further negotiations in May—Argentina, Canada, Finland, Yugoslavia, Brazil, Eire, Netherlands, Denmark, Uruguay, Sweden and Egypt.

All our negotiators can do is to press as strongly as possible for a quantity of our non-essential goods to be admitted at the same time as the goods which countries badly need from us—heavy engineering plant, electrical plant, and high grade textiles in particular. Green grocers have been known to employ the same technique.

These world-wide economic activities are at once a measure of our need and a warning that good salesmanship, in which price is as important as quality and quantity, is essential if rising production here is to have its reward.

As to the Anglo-Russian agreement, it will be easier to assess the true political and economic significance of the agreement when the long term negotiations are concluded next May. The economic survival of Britain is bound up with Europe. Try as we may we can never escape that fact, and a large number of economists believe that if we can establish commercial relations with Russia and other Eastern European countries over a long period, there is a real chance that the present political tensions will be materially lessened. John Gordon in the "Sunday Express" sums up the situation when he says "From talks on trade, once we begin to trust each other a little more and fear each other a little less, we may well make an advance to co-operation in the wider field of world restoration."

Despite statements by members of the Government, from the Prime Minister down, that they have no intention of going to the country before the end of the Parliamentary term, there are many at Westminster, including some Labour men, who do not think the Government will last the course. The stock argumentative question on this matter is: "Why should a Government with a big majority, and its plans for recovery in process, risk its life before it has to?" The answer to this by the election prophets is that it may have no choice. They point to signs of cracking in Labour unity—to the fact that the Government's majority on the latest Order for direction of labour was only 45 and on the decision to suspend the basic petrol ration only 27. They think this trend may well be accentuated when, under sterner administration by Sir Stafford Cripps, the full blast of coming austerities is felt.

At the moment this is an imponderable. But there is little doubt that many Labour men would rather see the whole Labour movement jeopardized by bad policy and administration.

The "New York Journal of Commerce" reports: "A small steamboat, so constructed with bolts and screws as to be easily taken apart, and as easily put together, has been towed away in one of our many vessels to be taken to China where it will ply between the ports of Whampoa and Canton. This was built by Messrs. Lawrence and Baxendale, for Captain Forbes, of Boston; it is one hundred feet in length, sixteen in width, and about eight deep."

The U.S. has not become a global Santa Claus just to have its beard pulled by the Russians. Three more tugs by Molotov and this country will be in a mood to give up even commercial dealings with the U.S.S.R.

Here is America, awathed in its crimson Christmas cloak, laden with gifts, humming a carol and radiating good will, and what happens?

The Russians plant time-bombs among the presents on the sleigh, feed poison to the reindeer, and his insults in reply to the Yule song.

United States trade with Russia is very small—not more than 1.2 per cent. of America's total foreign commerce. There are many here who think that the Russians to their senses.

Some are urging an outright economic embargo, but there is no agreement on this and the Government shies away nervously even at its mention. About further conferences, round-table meetings, and purveys with Molotov, however, there is near unanimity—the American public is "agin them."

Fortune's Lap

In New York we are on the final lap of the Christmas shopping rush. It has, of course, broken all previous records (it always does), and during one day alone the mammoth Macy store did close to 1,500,000 dollars' worth of business.

Prices are higher than ever, but shoppers are spending 6 per cent. more money than last year for goods and gifts.

The toy counters have been busy, and the best and most expensive toys come from abroad. We have sent some magnificent stuff—fine trains, soldier sets, puzzles, miniature war weapons.

World's Fare

I hate to talk about food, knowing your plight, but the reporting job must be done. There is every sort of food—pies, puddings, cakes, meat, fish, fowl, game, spices, sauces, fruit, chocolates, candy, and confectionery.

And there is every sort of drink; enough Scotch (25s. per bottle), rye, Bourbon, champagne, Burgundy, brandy, rum, gin, and vodka to float the combined Anglo-American Fleets. It is reasonably priced and unrationed.

Luxury goods, jewelled watches, fabulous necklaces.

100 Years Ago

(From the files of the "China Mail")

A scientific member of the Society of Friends has rendered the novel material of gutta percha tubing subservient to an important saving of time and footsteps in the domestic circle.

In consequence of the peculiar power possessed by this tubing for the transmission of sound, he has applied it for the conveyance of messages from the parlour to the kitchen. Even a whisper at the parlour mouth-piece is distinctly heard when the ear is applied at the other end.

Instead, therefore, of the servant having to answer the bell, as formerly, and then descend to the kitchen to bring up what is wanted, the mistress calls attention by gently blowing into the tube, which sounds a whistle in the kitchen, and then makes known her wants to the servant, who is able at once to attend to them.

By this means the mistress not only secures the execution of her order in half the usual time, but the servant is saved a double journey.

The "New York Journal of Commerce" reports: "A small steamboat, so constructed with bolts and screws as to be easily taken apart, and as easily put together, has been towed away in one of our many vessels to be taken to China where it will ply between the ports of Whampoa and Canton. This was built by Messrs. Lawrence and Baxendale, for Captain Forbes, of Boston; it is one hundred feet in length, sixteen in width, and about eight deep."

These are, for the most part, almost Victorian in make-up and display.

bracelets, olshaps, and bangles at anything from £100 to £5,000 are selling well.

Current issue of Time magazine describes C. V. R. Thompson, of the Daily Express, and myself as "grab bag goasps."

In a survey of the British Press it also says that American news rarely makes the front pages of our newspapers unless it is "such music-comedy stuff as the Hollywood hearings." Of course, it isn't so, but Time says it, and about 5,000,000 Americans who read the magazine will believe it.

I am getting rather tired of reading abuse of the British Press. We may have a little to learn from U.S. magazines in technique and production, but we have nothing to learn from the American daily newspapers.



Anyway, better a grab bag goasp than a wind bag weekly!

Making the Count

Sport continues to make New York news. Joe Louis is determined not to cancel his trip to Britain. He blames his poor showing against Jersey Joe Walcott on the "drying out process" he used before the fight to bring down his weight.

Walcott is now in the big-money class. He is asking 30 per cent. of the gate at the return match at the Yankee Stadium, and he will get it.

Gene Tunney, already a millionaire and one of the luckiest men in boxing, continues to stub his toe over mounds of dollars. Not only gold but uranium as well has been struck on Tunney's estate in Canada. The discovery is in the Tunney tradition—he drips wealth.

All around the town—Austerly note. Furrier Al Teitelbaum has made a Christmas tree out of white mink, using 67 mink skins in all.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By SHEPARD BARCLAY

"THE AUTHORITY ON AUTHORITIES"

COUNTING IS ROAD MAP

Just as cross-country motorists use a road map to guide him to his destination, so must a declarer often depend upon card-counting to plot a course which will steer him to attainment of his contract. Sometimes it shows him a straight path to where he is headed and on other occasions it will tell him to make a detour in order to avoid difficulties or dangers. The declarer who will not do it like a driver who just proceeds according to his sense of direction, paying no attention to even the road signs.

South held up his honor. He took the spade Q with his K and led the diamond Q to the A. The third spade lead was won by the A and the diamond 9 led to the 4.

Right at this stage South could count West for having held three spades, four diamonds, enough hearts to bid them, probably five, and therefore only one or two clubs, so that this suit wouldn't break. A throw-in play against West was indicated now, as otherwise only eight tricks were in sight—two in spades, one in hearts, two in diamonds and three in clubs. South therefore raked in the dummy's diamond 10 and three club tops, then led his heart 5. When West put on the Q, South played low from dummy, knowing West would have nothing left except hearts and would have to lead into the dummy's A-J for he lost two tricks.

Different defense could have bothered South, but as it went he was glad of his bid.

South's takeout of the double into a No Trump game was due to the vulnerability. He reckoned that if the 1-Heart could be set substantially, then a vulnerable game must be in the cards for his side and would probably pay more points. Reversing the vulnerability and he would have been happy to pass.

West decided to lead his diamond K, then switched to the spade 8, the 8 winning when

PICTURE OF THE AMERICAN SCENE

Mrs. John Jacob Astor appeared in a New York night club the other evening with her Chihuahua. The dog wore a sapphire necklace and a diamond ring on each paw.

Mink coats for dogs can be bought in some stores. The cost of killing challenges the cost of living. The price of pistol permits has increased from 7s. 6d. to £2 10s. in Manhattan. Now people can't afford to shoot themselves or anyone else at these prices.

Taking about high prices, many housewives are adopting the New Look—they are wearing their faces longer.

Inflation has hit Hollywood and the entertainment industry where it hurts. Audiences, compelled to pay more for food, shelter, and clothes, have cut down their visits to theatres, cinemas, and night clubs.

Business has dropped 25-30 per cent. in cinemas and theatres in New York, Washington, and Chicago.

The Lion's Share

The film city is disconcerted that Britain continues to stand fast on the 75 per cent. tax imposed on American films. It has been jolted by a cool statement from Sir Arthur Garraff, managing director of British Lion, that no British theatre will close for lack of films whether American pictures are sent to the United Kingdom or not.

Sir Henry French, Director-General of the British Film Producers' Association, who has just left here for England, has also helped to put the Americans right. He has told film chiefs that Britain favours a compromise, but that there is no burning desire to abolish the 75 per cent. tax.

Bob Hope, who can talk about nothing but Britain since he returned from London, bless him, is bringing Sid Field over here to co-star with him in a series of American films. Bob is almost deliriously enthusiastic about Field's talent.

Mickey Rooney, who for years received less than £200 a week while he starred in the Andy Hardy series and made millions for M.G.M., is now getting over £1,000 weekly.

British-born George Sanders is being psycho-analysed in New York and is enjoying the process. Sanders is a more successful heartbreaker even than Errol Flynn.

Supreme toast of Broadway and all New York is Jessica Tandy—remember her at the Old Vic? Jessica says she hasn't had a hit like "A Streetcar Named Desire" since "Children in Uniform" in London 13 years ago. She is often homesick for London.

American producers are still turning handsprings trying to sign up Vivien Leigh for a mink skins in all.

(Continued at foot of next column)

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"Now then for the most important part of this holiday lecture—the removal of the white meat!"

Behind The Scenes In The Greek War

By Douglas Werner

Military experts were hopeful today that the presence of American combat veterans as advisers with the Greek Army would make 1948 the year of victory in the long drawn out campaign against guerrilla forces terrorizing Northern Greece.

Some observers—American and British as well as Greek—feel that by late next spring guerrillas should be whittled down to the point where an estimate of the probable end of the costly campaign, tying up supplies needed by the civilian populace, is possible.

But this is admittedly an optimistic view since the guerrillas have shown remarkable tenacity in dealing with forces which outnumber them 10 to one. The guerrillas are usually described by the rightist Greek press as "bandits"—are estimated to number 15,000 to 20,000. The Army has a strength of about 120,000 and there are approximately 30,000 guerrillas. In addition there are a few thousand civilian defence forces organized as M.A.Y. units which operate independently within villages or M.A.D. units which operate attached to army units.

Rebel Forays
Operating from mountain strongholds, some of which are actually outside Greece, the "rebels" have made continual forays into the plains area of Northern Greece to burn and steal property and forcibly enlist young men to their cause. The army has been unable to stop them. In fact it has been fighting a purely defensive war.

The problem of how to put an end to the fighting has had allied military experts—American and British—almost as baffled as the Greeks themselves. Yet they feel this is the winter in which to crush the guerrillas especially since winter is coming on and the raiders will undoubtedly fare much worse in the cold than troops which are well clothed and well fed. Among the factors complicating the Greek situation are these:

1. The guerrillas receive outside help.

(Continued from Col. 6)
Hollywood film, but Lady Olivier seems determined to go to Australia with her husband.

Message from Stars

Incidentally, the message from Sir Laurence and Lady Olivier and 13 other British celebrities and screen stars congratulating Hollywood's "rebels" embarrassed studio chiefs. It came just after the Russians had called upon Hollywood to revolt against "propagandizing the notorious Truman Doctrine and so-called Marshall Plan, programme of beastly malice and hatred toward humanity and the stronghold of peace—the Soviet Union." Yeah!

Gracie Fields says the slogan used to be "Britain can take it," now it's "Britain can't have it." She intends to sing her number called "Chump Chop and Chimp."

Footnote: The sooner the U.S. digests the facts, the sooner Europe will digest the food.

2. There is too much political interference with the army.

3. There is no real offensive spirit within the army. The ability of the guerrillas to travel back and forth across the northern borders into Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania almost at will has provided the army with a serious problem. There, according to reliable officials, they are able to obtain ammunition and guns and bring them back into Greece. They get their food largely by looting from the countryside, if the reports received by the daily Greek press are any indication.

Sealing Off

The problem of sealing off the northern borders has often been discussed by Greek and Allied military officials with no satisfactory conclusions reached. Effective sealing of the border, it is believed, would require an enormous amount of manpower. One American spokesman theorized that it might be done by maintaining adequate guard forces at the principal mountain passes and other crossing points and by planting mines around other more vulnerable spots. But it is generally conceded that closing the border and keeping it closed is almost an impossible job in view of the long, irregular border line.

Some observers believe that much of the trouble with the Greek Army is that it is too deeply embroiled in politics and red tape. Recently a shake-up occurred in the High Command that has led Allied experts to take a better view of the situation. The Chief of Staff, Lieut. General Constantin Ventiris was removed and made commander of the army of Northern Greece. He was replaced by Lieut. General Constantin Yiandjis, who had headed the Northern Greek Army.

Ventiris is viewed as a good soldier and when the change took place Premier Sofoulis commented that on him "will depend the salvation of the nation."

A high American spokesman commented recently that Ventiris probably will do an excellent job "if the politicians stop picking on him."

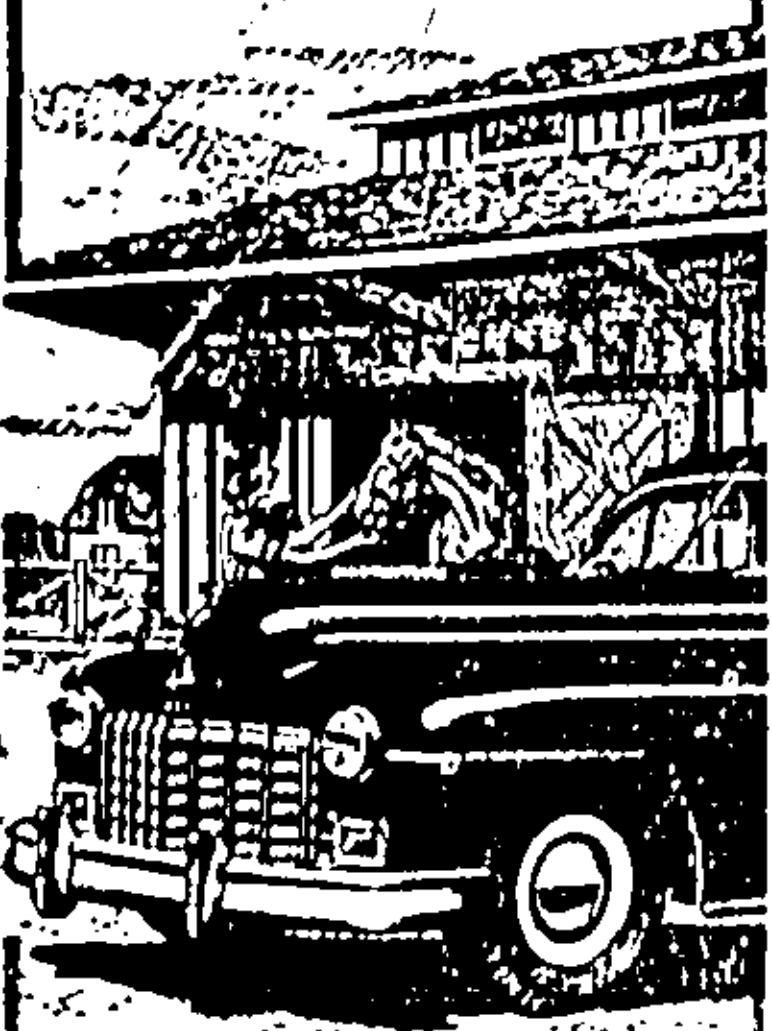
Poor Spirit

Observers have also noted a lack of an offensive spirit within the army—the absence of an incentive to chase the guerrillas into the hills rather than merely defend the villages and keep to the highways.

Major General William Livesey, head of the military section of the American aid mission to Greece, commented, "You can't beat guerrillas without adopting some of their own tactics. It's a lot like the old Indian warfare in American years ago when we had to go cut after them."

The estimates of the size of the guerrilla fighting force are misleading if one does not consider that thousands of Communists or Communist sympathizers are believed to be giving them aid and comfort without going any actual fighting themselves. War Minister George Stratos recently estimated that as many as 500,000 were involved.

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DEFIANT GERMAN LEADERS Standing Firm In Support Of Dr. Kaiser "Full Trust Of The Whole Union"

Berlin, Dec. 29.
The two dismissed Christian Democrat leaders in the Soviet Zone, Dr. Jacob Kaiser and Dr. Ernst Lemmer, received an unanimous vote of confidence at the inter-zonal Christian Democrat and Christian Socialist conference, which ended in Berlin today, the German news agency in the British Zone reported tonight.

Mourning For Jean Egal

SHANGHAI, DEC. 30.
SHANGHAI'S FRENCH COMMUNITY WENT INTO MOURNING TODAY FOR M. RODERICK JEAN BAPTISTE EGAL, FRENCH PATRIOT WHO HEADED THE FREE FRENCH HERE AFTER THE FALL OF FRANCE, ON RECEIPT OF THE NEWS THAT HE DIED IN HONGKONG YESTERDAY.

A veteran of the first World War, M. Egal was arrested by the French authorities here in August, 1941, for his efforts to rally all local Frenchmen to General Charles de Gaulle's standard, and sent to Saigon, where he was imprisoned for several months before facing trial.

He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and deprived of French citizenship, but was soon after, due to British pressure, "deported" to Singapore.

During his short stay in Singapore, he continued his Free French activities. He was in Hongkong on the outbreak of the Pacific War and was interned there for the duration by the Japanese.—Reuter.

Dr. Friedrich Holsapfel, mayor of Herford and chairman of the Christian Democratic Union in the British Zone, stated that no objection had been raised at the inter-zonal conference against their leadership of the party, neither against their work, nor against their objectives. He added that the Christian Democrats attached great importance to assuring the collaboration of both Dr. Kaiser and Dr. Lemmer in their future work.

Leaders of the Christian Democrats in the British and Soviet zones and leaders of Christian Socialists—counterpart in the United States Zone—signed a resolution saying: "According to the first principles of democracy, representatives of a party are appointed or dismissed by a meeting of its members. We state that Dr. Jacob Kaiser and Dr. Ernst Lemmer were elected as zonal chairmen by secret ballot at a zonal party gathering a few months ago. "They have the full trust of the whole union. We hope this fact will help to overcome the difficulties in the Soviet Zone."

Standing Firm

The outstanding point of tonight's resolution was that five provincial party leaders of the Soviet Zone concurred in it. These men had stood firm in their support of Dr. Kaiser and Dr. Lemmer, in spite of the disadvantage in which they were placed through the geographical location of their homes and families.

The resolution declared that the German nation has hardly found its democratic freedom since the collapse. "To safeguard this freedom, we still have to fight for the basic rights of free individual and democracy. In this endeavour, no zonal frontiers can divide us." It was announced that efforts to combine the Christian Democrat Union and the Christian Socialist Union into a single party would be made at a meeting in Frankfurt in January.—Reuter.

Bird Hat Snatcher

Nairobi, Dec. 29.
Villagers using a narrow, forest footpath near Zanzibar became accustomed to having their hats snatched off by a mysterious, unseen thief. Finally, a quick-eyed victim caught sight of a large bird making off with his cap. He followed it a short distance into the bush and watched while the bird neatly hung his hat alongside 13 others—all in a precise row on the limb of a baobab tree.—United Press.

MIGRATION TO BREMEN

Berlin, Dec. 29.
An "Industrial Settlement Committee" has been set up in the north-west German port of Bremen in the United States Zone to examine requests from Soviet zone industrial undertakings for permission to move to the Bremen area, it was reported here today.

The committee, which is giving preference to small and medium sized firms capable of being fitted into Bremen's industrial structure, already has issued settlement permits to radio, electrical and food manufacturers, and is now examining applications from eastern zone companies manufacturing export goods, it was stated.

Today's report came less than a fortnight after the announcement in Frankfurt that more than 2,000 industrial and mercantile firms in Berlin and the Russian Zone had applied to the Frankfurt Chamber of Commerce for permission to move to the bi-zonal capital.—Reuter.

Cease-Fire Truce Near In Batavia

Batavia, Dec. 29.
The Indonesian Republican Government will accept a cease-fire truce with the Dutch in a letter shortly to be sent to the Security Council's "good offices" committee, which put forward a third plan for a speedy and effective agreement in Indonesia, Republican sources said today.

The statement followed a special week-end meeting of the Indonesian Cabinet at Jogjakarta, and the arrival here today of the Republican negotiating committee.

The Republican acceptance of the plan was understood to be conditional, but it was believed that the letter would contain "helpful" suggestions. Dr. Louis Beel, the Dutch Prime Minister, met Mr. Setiadjit, the Indonesian Vice-Premier, on neutral soil at the American Consulate General here today.

This was arranged by Mr. Charles Livingood, the United States Consul General, who provided a special room for an informal talk, which lasted one hour, about the Dutch-Indonesian dispute.

The meeting, it is understood, was arranged with the knowledge of the United Nations Security Council's good offices committee on Indonesia. No official information has been given about the meeting.

Dr. Amir Sjarifuddin, the Indonesian Republican Prime Minister, did not return with the Republican delegation, as he was ill and had urgent affairs to which he must pay attention in the Republican capital, Republican sources said.

At first it was thought here that his absence from the Republican delegation indicated the possibility of a new hitch in the negotiations but members of the Republican delegation denied this so far as they were concerned.

New Guinea Oil Quest

Batavia, Dec. 30.
Three oil companies have resumed operations in New Guinea in a project that may lead to a discovery of great quantities of oil in Asia. They are Shell, Vacuum and the California-Texas companies, which have consolidated for the venture under the corporate name of the Netherlands New Guinea Petroleum Company.

All fields being worked were heavily bombed during the war. Three fields in Bornéo—Tarakon, Loulou and Sambodis—have resumed operations and by the end of 1948 are expected to be producing 100,000 tons of kerosene, gas oil, fuel oil and paraffin monthly.

This is in excess of the pre-war capacity. At Tarakan, where repairs and salvage work began in 1945, 215 wells have been restored. At Balikpapan, 200 wells have been brought to a point where they are producing 30,000 long tons of oil monthly.

In Java 58 wells have been similarly reclaimed, but the fields at Padjadjaran and Pangkajene in Sumatra—remain in the hands of the Indonesian Republic.—Associated Press.

Japanese Trade Rights

Washington, Dec. 30.
The U.S. Government on January 1, is returning to the Japanese Board of Trade the direction of Japan's international trade in silk and cotton textiles. The action is in conformity with the American desire to re-privatize Japanese trade to private hands as soon as possible, and enlarges the scope of the Allied restricted private trading agreement on Japan made effective in recent months.

Silk and cotton textiles, especially the latter, have proved the most profitable in the effort to get Japan back on its economic feet. During the time the U.S. Commercial Company handled the business, it developed from post-surrender zero to scores of millions of dollars yearly and further expansion appears imminent if the needed raw materials can be obtained. American and private agencies are at present trying to arrange cotton credits on behalf of Japanese spinners.—Associated Press.

ARGENTINE THREAT

Buenos Aires, Dec. 30.
A reliable trade source told Associated Press today that the Argentine Government has ordered all meat shipments to the United Kingdom to be halted after January 7 unless Britain is able to arrange payment in convertible pounds. A British mission at present negotiating in Buenos Aires has been informed of the government's attitude and is hopeful that an agreement can be reached before the deadline.—Associated Press.

General Bourne For Burma

London, Dec. 29.
The appointment of Major-General G. K. Bourne as head of the British Services Mission to Burma was officially announced by the War Office today.

Tall, one-armed and 44 years old, General Bourne has already left for Rangoon with most of his staff.

The Mission will begin its official duties on January 4, the day power is transferred to the Burmese and Burma becomes an independent nation outside the British Commonwealth of Nations.

During the war, General Bourne was a senior member of the British Joint Staff Mission to the United States for 18 months.

Afterwards he served in India, Java and Italy. Despite his disability, which he sustained over 20 years ago, General Bourne is a keen tennis and racket player.—Reuter.

Italian Ships Escape

ROME, DEC. 29.
THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT 13 MOTOR FISHING BOATS RECENTLY ROUNDED UP BY A YUGOSLAV WARSHIP IN THE ADRIATIC SEA HAD ESCAPED AND RETURNED TO THE PORT OF MOLETTA, ON THE ITALIAN ADRIATIC COAST.

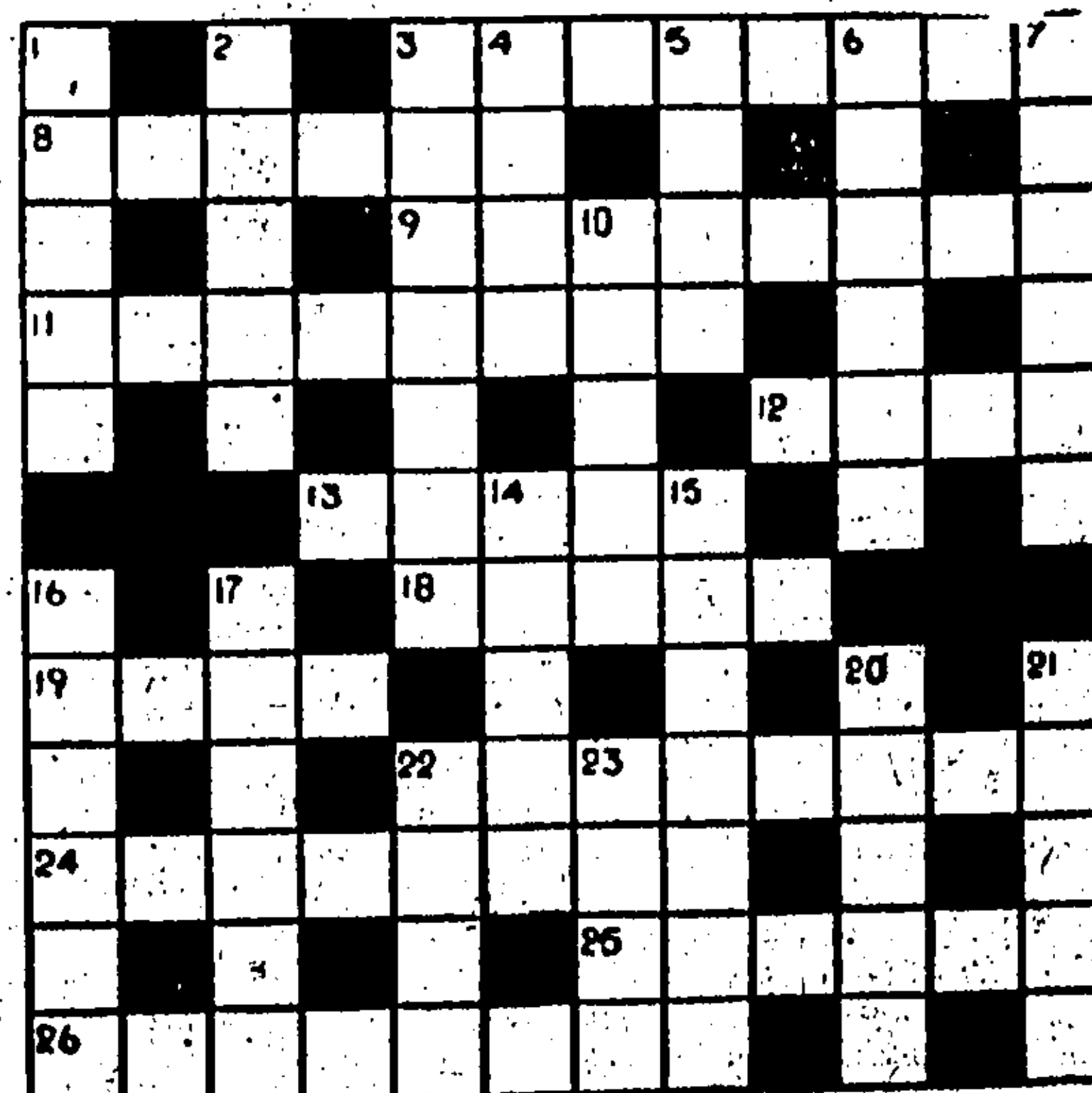
Two other boats had been interned by the Yugoslavs at Lissa, on the Yugoslav Dalmatian coast, it was added. The boats were fishing off the Yugoslav Island of Pelagosa, in the Adriatic Sea, halfway between Italy and Yugoslavia, when they were said to have been captured and impounded by Yugoslav patrols on December 24.—Reuter.

Soviet Makes A Gesture

Paris, Dec. 30.
Almost 60,000 tons of wheat, wood and motor fuel in reparations from Eastern Germany have been made available for the first time by Soviet occupation authorities and allotted to 10 countries today, the French Ministry announced.

The announcement said the allotment was made at the 14th session of the International Reparations Agency. Beneficiaries will be France, Belgium, India, Holland, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Britain and America. This is the first time Russia has carried out her part of the Potsdam Agreement on exchanges of reparations.—Associated Press.

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

1 Clergyman. 10 Possessed. 11 Sowed. 12 Coming in. 13 Called together. 14 Imperil. 15 Footwear. 16 Keep. 17 Low seat. 18 Game bird.

Yesterday's Crossword

Across—3 Recorder, 7 Malina, 8 Sparked, 10 Rasher, 11 Pleased, 12 Stow, 17 Fetter, 18 Infidel, 20 Nest, 21 Revised, 26 Tackle, 27 Enhance, 28 Knoll, 29 Tumbler.

Clues Down

1 Trace. 2 Backbone. 3 Souvenir. 4 Metal. 5 Frown. 6 Rubbly. 7 Staggered. 8 Dwell. 9 Being. 10 Dub.

11 Alone. 12 Hable. 14 Delle. 15 Gole. 16 Oris. 18 Iover. 19 Fallow. 22 Vase. 23 Sins. 24 Devil. 25 Anil.

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"LANCASHIRE"	U.K. via Straits	9th Jan.
"ORMARA"	Shanghai	16th Jan.
"TREVETHOE"	U.K. via Straits	16th Jan.
"EMPIRE BRENT"	U.K.	24th Jan.
"TREVETHOE"	Shanghai	27th Jan.
"DEVONSHIRE"	U.K.	18th Feb.
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits	18th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	Shanghai	24th Feb.
"DILWARA"	U.K.	27th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K. via Straits	28th Jan.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"LANCASHIRE"	U.K. via Straits	16th Jan.
"ORMARA"	Amoy	17th Jan.
"TREVETHOE"	Shanghai	18th Jan.
"EMPIRE BRENT"	Shanghai	24th Jan.
"DEVONSHIRE"	Kure	18th Feb.
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits	24th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	Shanghai	24th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K. via Straits & Continent	13th Mar.

British India

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"SANGOLA"	Shanghai & Amoy	13th Jan.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
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"SANGOLA"	Calcutta & Rangoon	15th Jan.

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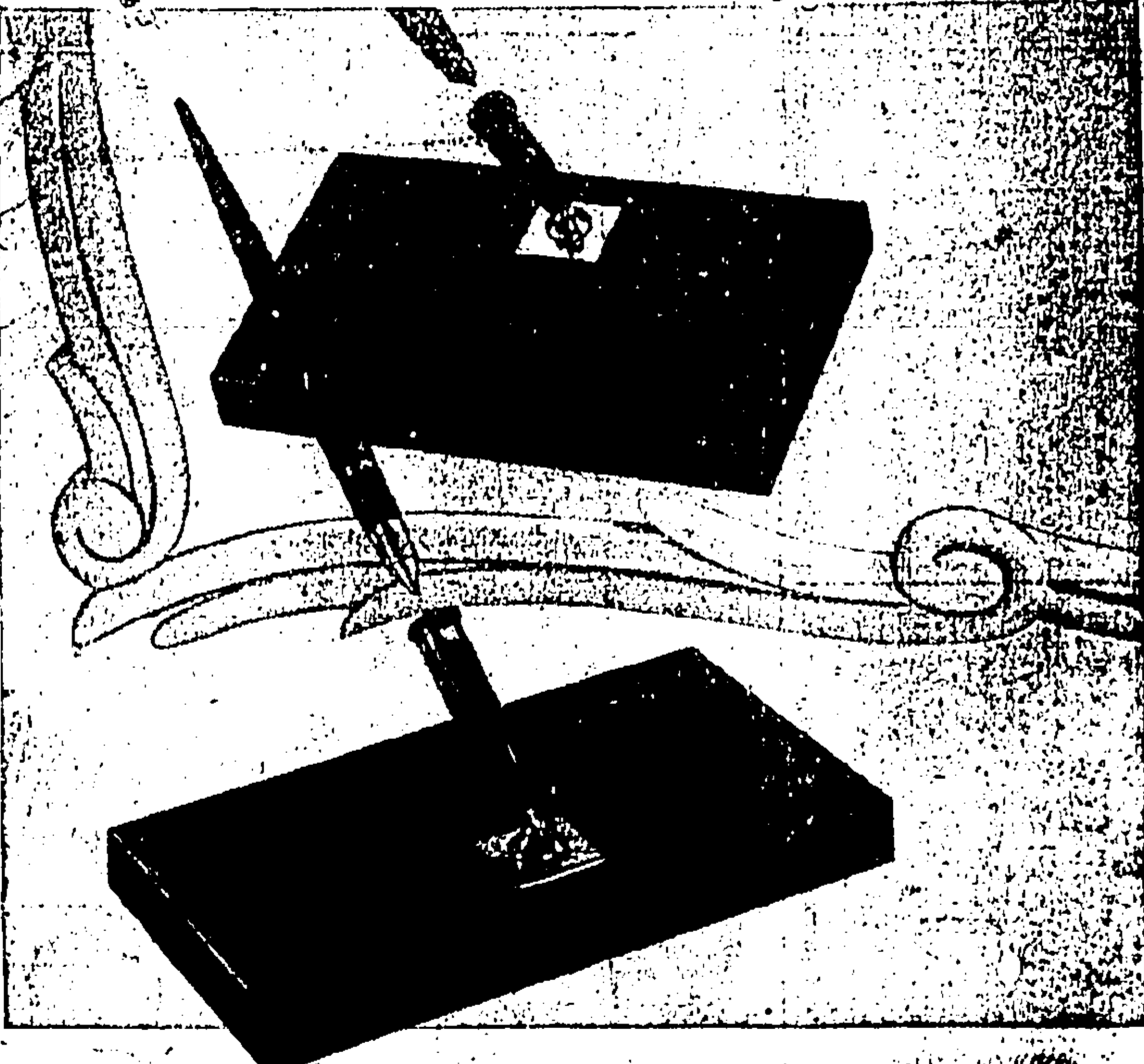
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